

Please add the following new claims.

6. (NEW) A method for calibrating a scanner being coupled to a host computer, the method comprising:  
retrieving operational data from a memory element of the host computer;  
evaluating the retrieved data for degradation in the operation of the scanner; and  
calibrating the scanner to overcome the degradations,

wherein the step of evaluating the retrieved data further includes  
calculating the percentage of change between past and present operational data.

7. (NEW) The method of Claim 6, wherein the calculated percentage initiates the step of calibrating based on an average value of an operational condition being calibrated.

8. (NEW) The method of Claim 6, wherein the calculated percentage initiates the step of calibrating the scanner according to a predetermined value contained on a calibration strip.

9. (NEW) A system for calibrating a scanner being coupled to a host computer, the system comprising:  
a retrieving means for obtaining operational data from a memory element of the host computer;  
an evaluating means for analyzing the retrieved data for degradation in the operation of the scanner; and  
a calibrating means for allowing the scanner to overcome the degradations,  
wherein the operational data includes information obtained from previous scans and calibrations.

10. (NEW) The system of Claim 9, wherein the evaluating means further includes a calculating means to determine the percentage of change between past and present operational data.